FASHION INTERNATIONAL

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FASHION WORLD

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1996

BETTER LIVING THROUGH . . .

PLAIN and *Fancy* CONFECTIONS

Holiday/Early Spring '97

Spring '97 brings a breath of fresh air as bridge collections focus on modern touches. Smart silhouettes, from jackets to pants, have just the right amount of fit and flare, while colors look newest in crisp blues and greens. Prints make a comeback in an abundance of graphic combinations, as well as stylized florals, but the big news is in the fabrics. "Techno" fabrics show up everywhere, with naturals taking a back seat to synthetics.

COMO INTERNATIONAL creates a collection with a '40s feel but a '90s edge. In a group called "Corporate Challenge," a short seamed jacket in windowpane plaid looks great with a boxy pleated skirt or slightly flared pant of wool/viscose/spandex. Zebra stripes and two-tone polo sweater sets mix in with solids, in

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Intimate apparel designers are offering a broad range of looks, from the most luxurious loungewear to the essential daywear items, while retailers (particularly specialty stores and boutiques) are looking beyond the traditional labels and focusing on fresh new talent.

INTIMATELY YOURS, with European styled fashionable lingerie, is one of those vendors working to establish a stronger presence in the American market. The extensive collection includes pretty black or ivory knitted stretch satin underwire bras and panties trimmed with venise lace. Other standouts include bodysuits and teddies in silk, lace, satin microfiber, pure cotton and cotton/Lycra blends. **SHYLA** uses only the finest fabrications for their totally clean, functional

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THE KNIT ONE PURL TWO
WORLD OF CREATIVE BRITISH KNITWEAR & DIANNE E.

PERHAPS BECAUSE OF THE CHILLY U.K. TEMPERATURES, THE BRITISH HAVE DEVELOPED A CREATIVE AND DEFT TOUCH WITH KNITWEAR. WITH A SPRING OF EXCITING KNITWEAR IN VIEW — HERE ARE SOME TERRIFIC LOOKS FOR '97.

JANE WHEELER offers twenty delightful hand knit styles for Spring '97, running the gamut from solids such as pale yellow, blue, olive, sage, coral and neutrals to tartans. The latter, she says, has garnered a great deal of interest from buyers and the media — especially the linen crew neck, shaped cardigan that is featured in a pale yellow, blue or red plaid. A definite winner! Another popular style is the solid safari jacket, complete with epaulettes, belt, and Y-shaped pockets, shown in tan sage, olive and coral. The '70s makes its presence felt in a zigzag lacy knit cardigan, featured in an abbreviated or a long lean style. Other great designs include the solid linen knit blazer with contrast trim and collar, the linen or cotton rose patterned cardigan, and the cotton knit shirt.
Prices: $140-$250.
U.S. Representative:
Seed, 76 Green Street, NY, NY 10012.
Phone: 212-226-0876.

JANE WHEELER

JOAN CHATTERLY shows a line of smart cotton tunics in a host of Spring solids that create interest with textured cable and bobble stitching. However, she also has an eye for the truly whimsical. Her all cotton vests and weskit-bottom cardigan feature bright charming patterns, from animals to potted plants and blossoms; while a selection of tunics come emblazoned with bears, flowers or an entire carousel scene.
Prices: $120-$180.
US Representative:
Dianne E., 68 Waterman Farm Rd., Centerville, MA 02632.
Phone: 508-709-0009.

J AND J SEATON is another British company that translates creativity into the kind of hand knit sweaters sure to become wardrobe favorites. For Spring, the palette encompasses navy, natural, red, citrus, vanilla, anthracite, peppermint, aluminum, black and blue solids or floral patterns — all in cotton. One group provides a whimsical alternative to straightforward blooms, depicting seed packets as a central theme! Texture also plays a key role, providing tactile interest through front panels of cable stitch. While there are many oversized and tunic styles, the shaped cardigans look fresh and new. An instance of the latter, entitled "Vita," incorporates a curvy neckline that underscores the cardigan's shapely contour. A standout is the long A-line cardigan jacket with a floral design. Its back swings out due to cleverly inverted pleats.
Prices: $61-$195.
Address: Goetre, Llanfynydd, Carmarthen, Dyfed, UK SA327TT.
Phone: (0558) 668825.

Romance is in the air at **MUIR AND OSBORNE** with styles inspired by, and named after, Jane Austin, Isadora Duncan and Vita Sackville West. The palette is a fresh, Spring delight, encompass-

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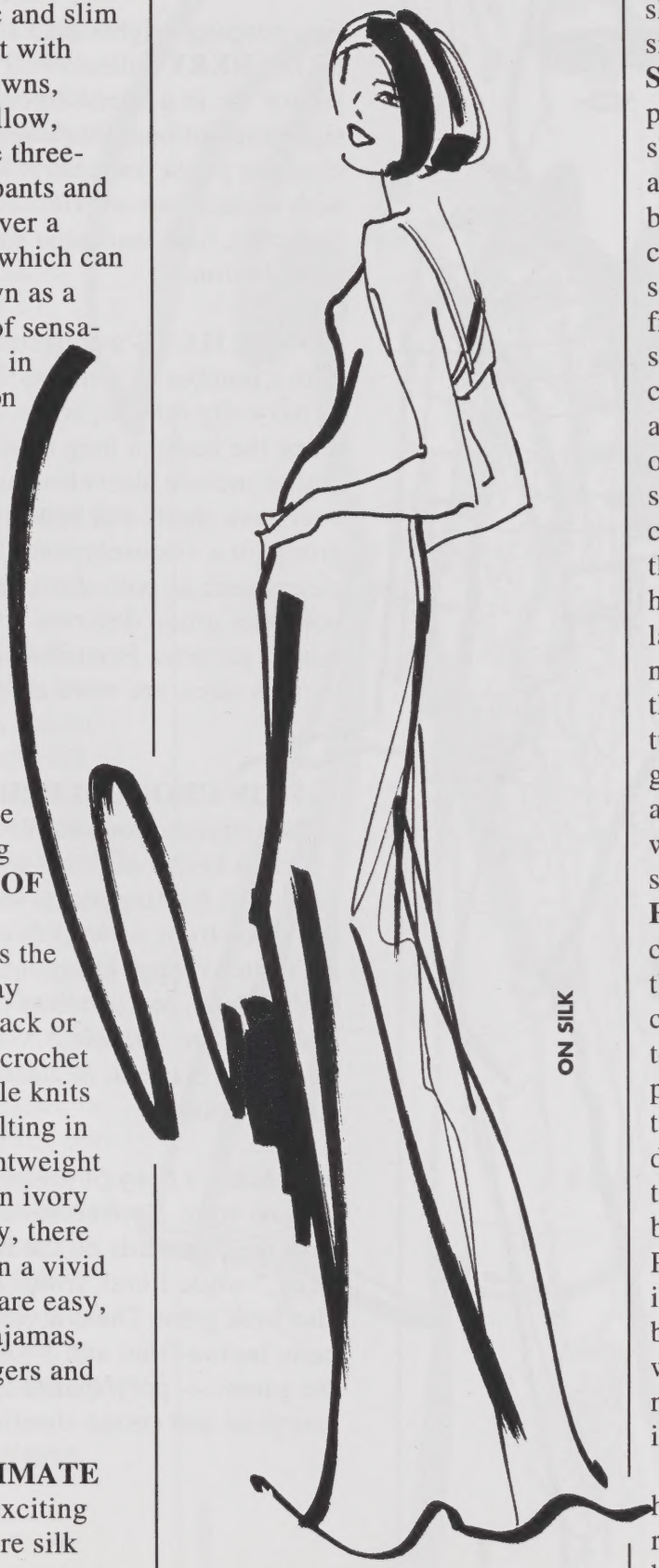
"PLAIN & FANCY" continued from page 1

loungewear. Too glamorous to stay home are the heather gray or beige cashmere pieces, particularly the cowl neck tunic and slim pants. Move on to Resort with their 100% silk pique gowns, pajamas and shirts in yellow, marine or turquoise. The three-piece pajama, with full pants and an easy cardigan worn over a longer sleeveless tunic (which can do double duty on its own as a dress), is nothing short of sensational day or night. Also in the collection are silk/cotton prints, double layered georgettes and 100% waffle cotton piques. Outstanding pieces from Shyla's daywear line include the perfect understated cotton/Lycra underwire bras and bodysuits (in white or black), the ecru microfiber bras and thong panty, and the white tulle stripe underwire high leg bodysuit. **LOVELACE OF HOLLYWOOD's** new loungewear division puts the emphasis on four Holiday groups. The first is in black or hunter panne velvet with crochet knit trim. Next are bubble knits combined with satin quilting in white, red or black. Lightweight textured Sherpas come in ivory and heather gray. Finally, there are 100% pongee silks in a vivid floral print. Silhouettes are easy, cozy and play up soft pajamas, rompers, zip-front loungers and simple gowns.

BARE WITNESS INTIMATE CLOTHING is a new exciting contemporary line of pure silk charmeuse sleepwear/daywear clothing. Outstanding styles include the athletic inspired racer-back camisole/tap short set and the side-slit gown in royal with red and white piping. Other winners include a sleek V-neck pajama set with Capri pants and a long sleeved jumpsuit, both in silk shantung. Also specializing in silk charmeuse lingerie is **FOUR SEASONS SILK.** The color palette focuses on luminescent shades of cinnabar, mallard blue, azalea, purple, pale pink, pearl or black. Updated classics include a camisole/tap set with princess seaming and flutter legs, and a V-front chemise with adjustable straps. In pastels, a knitted silk camisole set with bikini panty and a knitted silk thong is very sensuous. **REVEN** offers very feminine silk lingerie. Typical is a V-neck charmeuse gown, in silver or lilac, that is delicately trimmed at the hem with a double row of white lace. This lace also trims a scoop neck, sleeveless chemise. One of the prettiest prints features black tulips on a triple tiered silk georgette short gown. Reven puts a new spin on the athletic look with their clean sporty vest and short set in pastel silk charmeuse. **FLANNIES** shows some of cheeriest lounge pieces in cotton thermal, flannel, etc. Definitely crossing over into sportswear territory is a red jersey tunic and pants. The short sleeved top is trimmed with a row of blue denim daisies down the front. In a country hearts/stripe flannel print, the button-front "Gwen" top with Peter Pan collar and short sleeves is charming over matching flannel boxers. Also making their mark with innovative inner/outerwear is newcomer **ON SILK**. Standouts in this sophisticated yet understated collection include a '30s inspired halter romper in lavender, lilac or rose charmeuse, a georgette tie-back, spaghetti strapped crop top and drawstring pajamas in grape-



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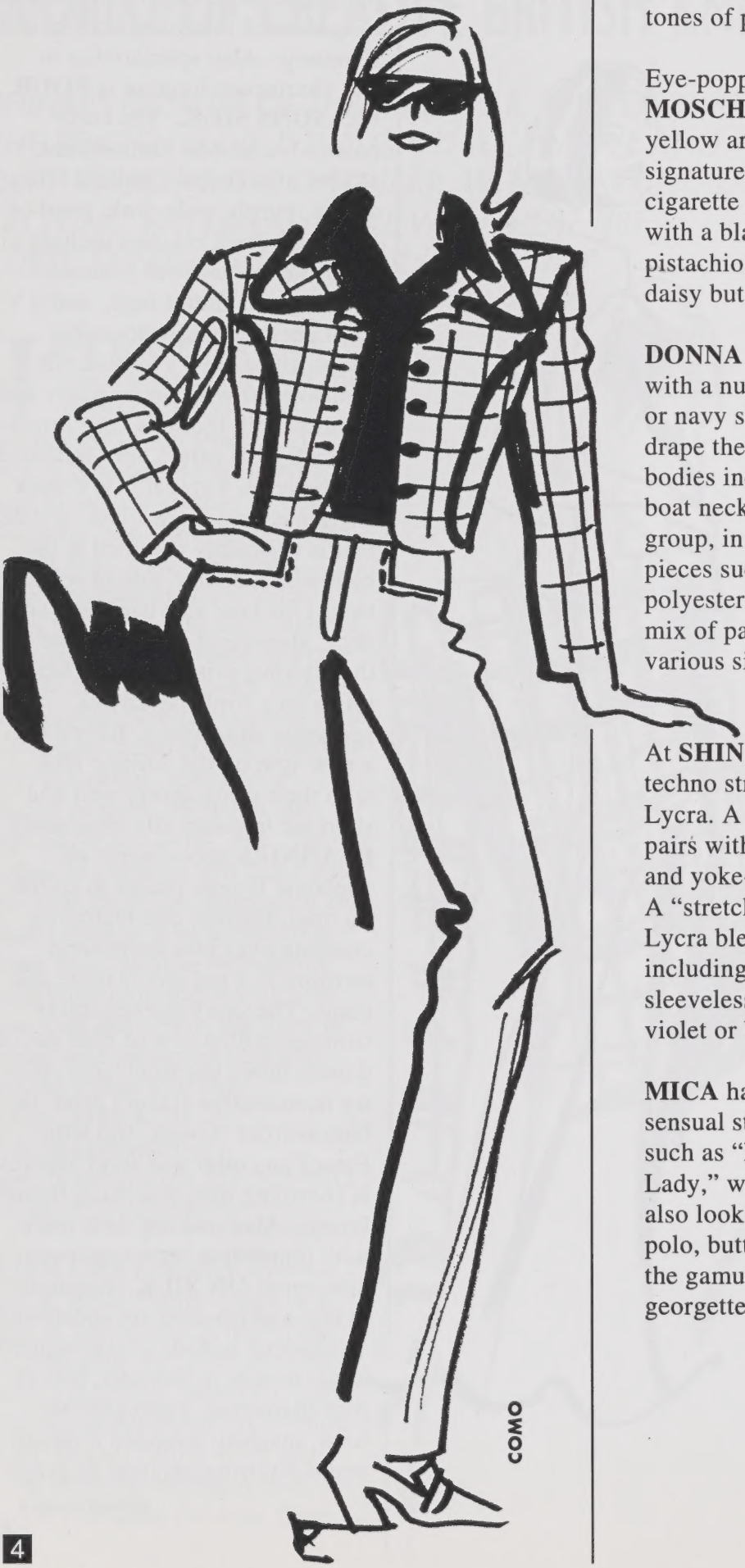
"BETTER LIVING. . . " continued from page 1



black and ivory. The "brighter shade of pale" group combines longer jackets and flowing skirts in soft tones of pistachio, apricot and petal pink.

Eye-popping brights grab attention at the **MOSCHERY** collection. Turquoise, fuchsia and yellow are in a linen/viscose blend with silver signature buttons. Sleeveless dresses, fitted jackets, cigarette pants, and shorts look great as solids or with a black lace overlay. A softer group is in pistachio, lilac, and aqua stretch crepe with daisy buttons.

DONNA HAAG's collection has a casual elegance with a number of synthetic knit blends. Slinky sand or navy slip dresses, some with floral embroidery, drape the body in long or short versions. Other bodies include sleeveless turtle and V-neck dresses, boat neck shells and belted cardigans. Another group, in a viscose/nylon blend, focuses on casual pieces such as polo shirts and pants. A cotton/polyester group deserves attention for a whimsical mix of patterns. Hound's-tooth and polka dots, in various sizes, are worn alone or together.

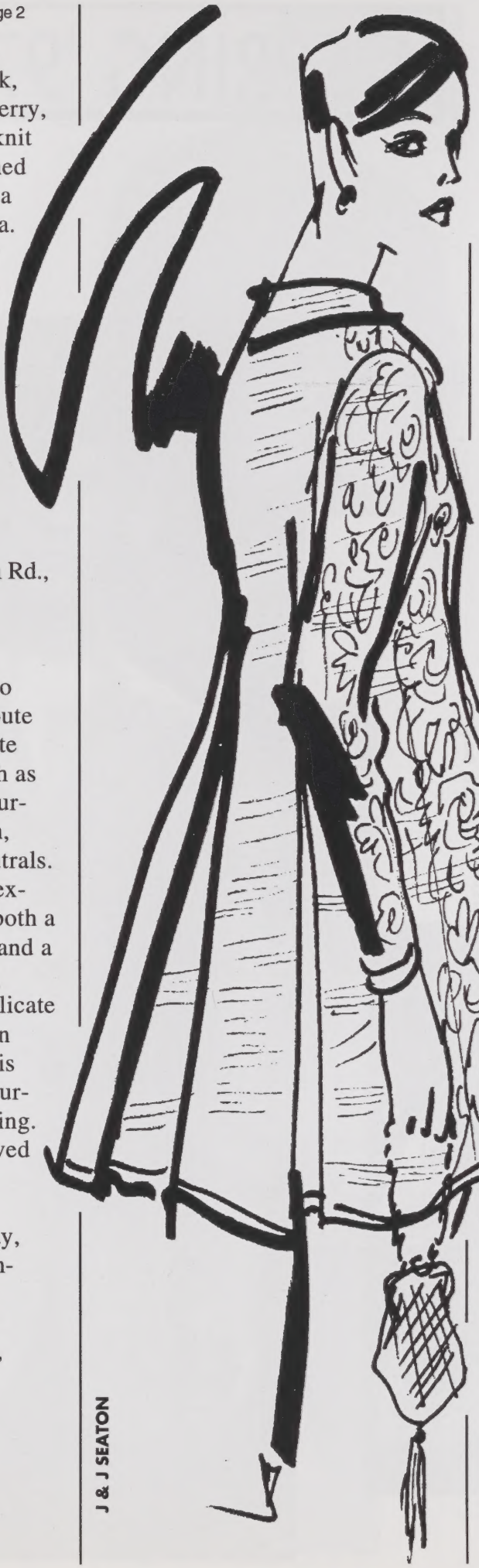
At **SHIN CHOI/COLERIDGE & CO.**, their techno stretch group is 90% polyester and 10% Lycra. A belted military or single-breasted jacket pairs with bootleg pants, such as the riding, hipster, and yoke-front, as well as side-zip and cadet pants. A "stretch crepe" group, made of a viscose/acetate/Lycra blend, has a variety of feminine dresses, including the sleeveless V-neck Empire or the sleeveless bias cut, in anise, hyacinth, sage, pale violet or black.

MICA has a bevy of dresses with a retro appeal and sensual style. Conversational prints predominate, such as "Postcards on the Beach" or "Luck be a Lady," while floral, fruits, and photograph prints also look great. Dress styles include slip, halter, polo, button-front and T-shirt bodies. Fabrics run the gamut — poly/spandex, rayon/pique, rayon georgette and cotton sheeting.

"KNIT ONE PURL TWO" continued from page 2

ing ecru, blush, mauve, mist, coffee, powder blue, red brick, mustard, light oat, indigo, cherry, black and moss green. Here knit styles are meticulously finished and detailed, and many have a Victorian and Edwardian aura. Favorites include the Knightly waistcoat. Long and shapely, it comes complete with pockets and knit covered buttons. Also wonderful is the Isadora jacket, in a choice of solid ecru, black, blush or cherry, accented by a patterned knit scarf.
Prices: $150-$225.
US Representative:
Dianne E., 68 Waterman Farm Rd., Centerville, MA 02632.
Phone: 508-709-0009.

SUSAN DUCKWORTH also takes the natural all cotton route for Spring, with a color palette that includes jewel tones such as chartreuse, blue, green and burgundy, as well as sage, peach, turquoise, gray and other neutrals. Central to this collection is texture. This is exemplified by both a lacy, shaped, sleeveless top, and a cropped cardigan with shawl collar, which juxtaposes a delicate lacy stitch with cable knit. An elongated tunic-like sweater is shaped into the waist using burgundy with red floral patterning. A particular favorite is a curved front abbreviated sweater, patterned with dusty peach, turquoise, black and dark gray, and highlighted with an asymmetrical high-closing collar.
Prices: $150-$400.
Address: 1 Hillside Cottages, Old Compton Lane, Farnham, Surrey GU9 8EQ, U.K.
Phone: (0252) 722580.

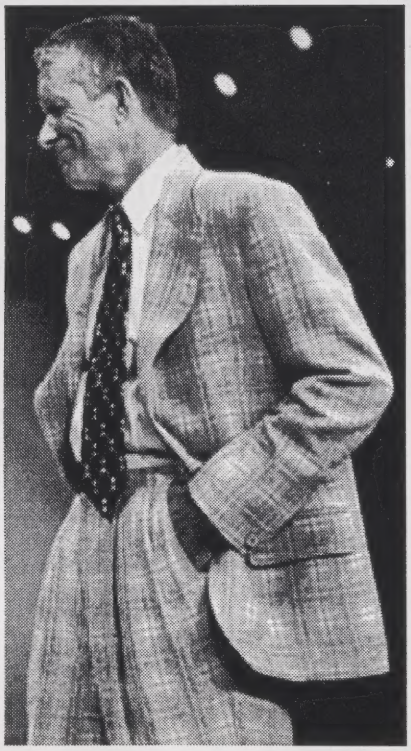

J & J SEATON

ENGLISH WEATHER provides an enormous selection in terms of palette, pattern, style, and texture. The palette features mouthwatering melon, and neutrals such as ecru and straw. Solids predominate, but Fair Isle patterns make a strong statement, as does a whimsical thematic group that takes its inspiration from Morocco. A standout here is the boxy cardigan in an apricot and sand combination, alive with swaying palm trees and camels!
Prices: $120-$200.
Address: 8 Winchester Place, Highgate, London N6 5HJ, U.K.
Phone: (0181) 348-3524.

ANNE FEWLASS has a handful of beautifully detailed knit jackets and vests that could be defined as collectables, in hues ranging from green to wine and blue. This grouping includes a cotton chenille/Viscose and Polymide contrast pattern knit jacket, with solid sleeves and side panel. The chenille/cotton V-front, shapely design with full sleeves is edged with exquisite glass beads. Another long, single-breasted jacket, with shawl collar, is knitted in black and silver shaggy yarn, and finally trimmed in silver.
Prices: $215-$465.
US Representative:
Dianne E.,
68 Waterman Farm Rd.,
Centerville, MA 02632.
Phone: 508-709-0009.

A SPRING '97 ALBUM

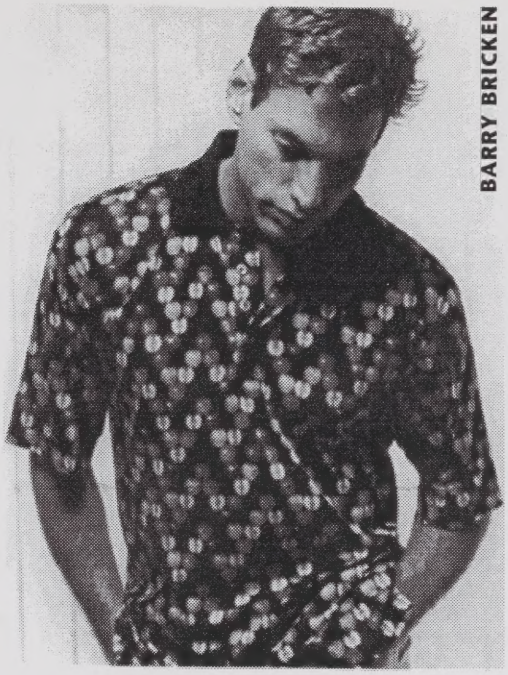
HUGO BOSS



BRIAN McKINNEY

MONDO D[illegible]RCO

BARRY BRICKEN



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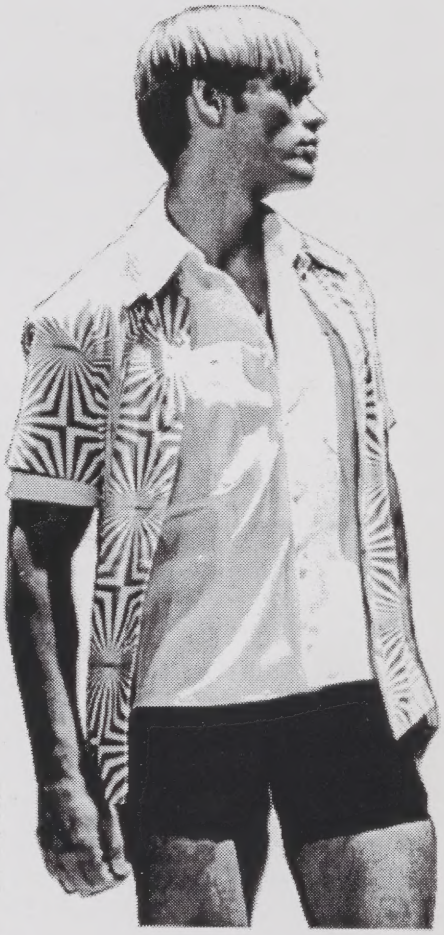

ARCKITOURE

BARRY BRICKEN

AGUS

Look for –

- **Stripe Combinations**
- **Restrained Plaids & Checks**
- **New 4-Button Jacket**
- **Relaxed & Easy Suits**
- **Lightweight Vested Suits**
- **Sophisticated Prints**
- **Short Sleeves Often Cuffed**
- **Sportshirts Worn Outside Pants**

INTERNATIONAL DATELINE

NOV. 7-9 HONG KONG
OPTICAL FAIR

NOV. 7-10 DUBLIN
KNITTING & STITCHING SHOW

NOV. 12-14 FRANKFURT
INTERSTOFF SEASON
(Fabrics)

Nov. 19-22 PARIS
INTER SELECTION
(Lingerie, Hosiery, Accessories)

DEC. 3-5 PARIS
EXPOFIL
(Yarns)

DEC. 3-5 MILAN
MODAPRIMA
(Knitwear)

DEC. 3-6 NEW YORK
FFANY
(Footwear)

JAN. 4-7 NEW YORK
INT'L FASHION BOUTIQUE SHOW
(Women's)

JAN. 5-7 NEW YORK
NY PREMIER INTERSEASON
(Women's)

JAN. 5-7 NEW YORK
ACCESSORIE CIRCUIT

JAN. 5-8 MIAMI
GIFT SHOW

JAN. 9-12 FLORENCE
PITTI IMMAGINE UOMO/OLTRE
(Menswear & Accessories)

JAN. 12-14 NEW YORK
INT'L KIDS FASHION SHOW

JAN. 17-19 FLORENCE
PITTI BIMBO (Children's)

JAN. 18-20 MILAN
PROGETTO INTIMO
(Underwear)

JAN. 19-21 NEW YORK
NAMSB (Menswear)

JAN. 19-21 NEW YORK
DESIGNERS' COLLECTIVE/
MODE COAST (Menswear)

JAN. 21-24 HONG KONG
FASHION WEEK

JAN. 24-27 PARIS
SEHM (Menswear)

JAN. 24-27 PARIS
INTERFILIERE
(Fabics for Lingerie)

JAN. 24-27 PARIS
SALON INT'L DE LA LINGERIE

"PLAIN & FANCY" continued from page 3

fruit/peach, or steel blue/lavender combinations; and a streamlined high neck bias gown with cross straps at the back, in tangerine, ice blue, ivory, black or pink duchesse silk.

Early predictions for Spring include the use of florals, from intricate embroideries to whimsical prints. Silhouettes vary from baby dolls to floaty dresses and classic pajamas. Also on tap are icy toned sorbet shades, plus spanking white for the color palette. **NIGHTINGALES** is filling a void for stylish woven cottons. This capsule collection comes in either pink or periwinkle with sheer white georgette ruffles or piping used as accents. "Florence" is a pretty drop waist dress with georgette ruffle, while "Camelot" takes the traditional shortie pajama, and adds short sleeves, a Peter Pan collar and white piping. Pure cotton sleepwear in gingham checks and prints are available from **PETER ALEXANDER** who also offers matching slippers and even toothbrushes! The breakfast print on a pink gingham nightshirt is a cheerful way to start or end the day. Highlights from **LINDA LINGERIE's** Spring collection include softly tailored charmeuse pajamas and nightshirts that feature a touch of lace embellishment on the breast pockets. These come in blush, vanilla or black. **HUIT's** varied collection of foundations, daywear and sleepwear is fresh and colorful. The orange fruit print sleep shirt and shortie cotton pajamas look terrific with the brightly colored fruit against a turquoise or yellow ground.

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